Visit of World Bank Team to India for Assisting Power Sector

1558. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a World Bank team Visited India to undertake a study for assistance to power sector; and

(b) if so, the details of the assistance likely to be provided by the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) Periodical discussions are held with the international financial institutions including the World Bank for funding power sector in India in both Central and State Sectors. The amount of assistance in a particular Year for the power sector depends, on a number of factors including stage of preparedness of the projects and past utilisation of the assistance.

Constraints in Textile Exports

@1559. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated October 25, 1993, entitled "Major constraints hamper India's Textile exports";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) what remedial steps have been taken by Government or are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are of the view that the export target for textiles for the current year is likely to be fulfilled by the end of the financial year.

@ Previously Unstarred Question 328 transferred from 6th December, 1993.

Stable Policy on Cotton Exports

@1560. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether he, while addressing the meeting of the Cotton Development Council recently, called for a stable policy on cotton exports and also the announcement of cotton export quota in the beginning of the crop season;

(b) if so, the estimated quantum of cotton expected to be exported during the current season; and

(c) reasons for proposing a stable policy on cotton exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has an existing export policy on cotton under which 5 lakh bales are released at the beginning of the cotton season. This has been done. Further releases are made keeping in view domestic prices and availability of cotton.

The objectives of the cotton export policy are:—

(i) To ensure a more remunerative return to the cotton growers.

(ii) To bring about stability in the domestic prices of cotton and

(iii) To instil confidence in the international cotton market that India is also regular producer and exporter of raw cotton.

Textile Exports

@@ 1561. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India occupies a prominent place in the International Textile Market;

@ Previously Unstarred Quesion 323 transferred from 6th December, 1993.

@ Previously Unstarred Question 297 transferred from 6th December, 1993.

(b) whether it is also a fact that India's share in textile exports in only 2 per cent of the global textile exports;

(c) if so, the reasons for this low percentage; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the percentage of exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d) According to the currently available data, India's share in the world textile trade is around 2%. The major reason for this low share is the quota restrictions imposed by major textile importing countries. Government have taken several steps to increase textile exports which include full convertibility of Rupees, allowing import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production, participation in Buyer-Seller Meets, fairs, exhibitions etc.

Modernisation of Textile Industry in Gujarat by Israel

1562. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Israel has offered to enter into joint industrial cooperation for modernisation of textile industry in the State of Gujarat

(b) if so, what are the industrial projects where Israel has agreed to help and assist the State Government of Gujarat;

(c) whether the Central Government have agreed and have allowed the State Government of Gujarat to enter into contracts with Israel; and

(d) if so, what are the industrial areas for which agreements have been reached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As per available information, no such offer has been made.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Loss Incurring NTC Textiles Mills in Gujarat

1563. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Textile Mills being run by the National Textiles Corporation in Gujarat State;

(b) what is the number of mills out of these which are incurring losses; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to make these mills profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) 11 Textile mills are being run by National Textile Corporation in Gujarat.

(b) All these mills are incurring losses.

(c) Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC inlcuding the mills of NTC in Gujarat. The key elements of this strategy include selective modernisation, financial and managerial restructuring and rationalisation of surplus workforce under Voluntary Retirement Scheme. It is expected that NTC including its mills in Gujarat would be able to attain profitability in three years with the successful implementation of the Turn Around Strategy. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has been entrusted with the responsibility of the revival of the mills under NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special, Provisions) Act, 1985.